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REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

Albany Army Relief Association.

CITY HALL, July 12, 1862.

On the first day of November, 1861, a Society of Ladies called the "Army Relief Association" was organized in the city of Albany. It was intended to co operate with the United States Sanitary Commission at Washington, in its efforts to ameliorate the sufferings of our sick and wounded soldiers in the hospitals and in the camps, and as soon as its organization was effected it went at once into active operation; Mrs. E. D. Morgan being duly elected its President.

Of the practical working and effective condition of this organization, its Executive Committee now present the following report:—

Cash Receipts.

Received through Ward Committees, as per acknowledgments published.....	\$577 50
Unexpended balance from Kansas Relief Fund, through Hon. George H. Thacher.....	220 91
Unexpended balance from Soldiers Thanksgiving Dinner, through David Murray, Esq.....	90 31
From Hon. J. G. Saxe's Lecture.....	212 12
Ferry St. Methodist Sunday School..	25 00
Ferry Street Methodist Church.....	28 00
J. Page and Son (for employees).....	40 00

Gross Total..... \$1,193 84

Disbursements.

Ubsdell, Pierson & Co., (for goods furnished)	\$467 38
J. M. Crapo, (for goods furnished,)..	227 93
Morrel & Read, " ..	54 94
Wm. McElroy & Son, " ..	39 96
B. & R. L. Spelman, " ..	15 26
Sheldon & Co., " ..	16 00
Van Sickler & Forby, " ..	18 00
Dickerman, " ..	10 96
Clifton & Co., " ..	10 00
Sweet & Tingley " ..	4 62
Lord & Son, " ..	51
Tucker, Crawford & Rector.....	4 00
Expenses of agent (Geo. H. Thacher) to Washington.....	50 00
Miss Cary, (for special uses at City Hospital).....	15 00

Total..... \$934 56

Leaving an unexpended balance in the Treasury of..... \$258 28

During the months of December and January, 27 boxes and 3 barrels of Hospital supplies (No. 1 to No. 30 inclusive) were sent to the Sanitary Commission at Washington, and acknowledgments received therefrom of their safe arrival. These boxes contained the following articles: Bed Ticks, 50; Comforters, 167; Blankets, 101; Sheets, 367; Pillow Cases, 215; Pillows, 67; Cushions and Compresses,

407; Towels, 348; Woolen Socks, 702 pairs; Handkerchiefs, 292; Cotton Drawers, 207; Canton Flannel Drawers, 87; Canton Flannel Bed Gowns, 88; Double Gowns, 118; Mittens, 51 pairs; Canton Flannel shirts, 41; Cotton and Woolen Shirts, 46; Cotton Shirts, 47; Back Gammon Boards, 23; large quantities of old Linen, Lint, Bandages, Books and Magazines.

In February the small pox broke out with great violence in the Military Hospital at Plattsburgh, and application was made to this Association for proper hospital garments. A box (No. 31) was at once dispatched to that post, which contained—Comfortables 25; Bed-Ticks 25; Pillow Ticks 25; Sheets 46; Pillow Cases 50; Towels 50; Pairs Socks 50; Canton Flannels and Bed Gowns 6; Dressing Gowns 6; Woolen Shirts 6; Woolen Drawers 6 pairs; Cushions 6; Preserves, Chocolate, Farina, Corn Starch, bundle old Linen, Magazines, Books, &c.

On the 19th of February a petition was received from the 93d Regiment, (Morgan Rifles,) stating that they were under marching orders, and asking for hospital supplies, to be taken with the Regiment. The petition was granted and a box (No. 32) was packed with the following articles:—Socks 50 pairs; Towels 50; Flannel Shirts 6; Flannel Drawers 6; Flannel Bed Gowns 6; Woolen Shirts 2; Double Gowns 4; Pillow Ticks and Cases 10; Pocket Handkerchiefs 7; Blankets 2; Slippers 4 pairs; Bottles Bourbon Whiskey 2; 1 piece India Rubber Cloth; Coca, Corn Starch, Farina, Ginger, Mustard, Saucepans, Soap, Bandages, Lint, old Linen, Flannel, &c.

Another box (No. 33) was also sent to Miss Lawrence, a hospital nurse at Washington. These boxes have all been received and properly acknowledged.

In January a Committee was appointed to visit and ascertain the necessities of the soldiers in the City Hospital on Eagle street. Liberal supplies were donated whenever needed, and money placed in the hands of Miss Cary, (see Disbursements,) to be used at her discretion in relieving wants not otherwise provided for. This Committee also distributed among the soldiers at the Barracks, during the months of February and January, the following articles:—Mittens 472 pairs; Socks 882 pairs;

Quilts 110; Towels 40; heavy Aprons for kitchen use 25

The Post Hospital, connected with the Barracks last winter, when first organised, lacked nearly every essential that should characterise such an establishment. The Hospital Committee was authorised to visit it and report each week its condition and its needs; and the following articles were sent there from time to time, as occasion required:—Bed Ticks, Pillow Ticks, Sheets, Pillow Cases, Towels, Handkerchiefs, China Cups, Night Caps, Neck Comforters, Mustard, Bandages, Compresses, Lint, Wine, Jellies, Cocoa, Farina, Lemons, Books, Magazines, &c.

In March an urgent appeal was again made to the philanthropic citizens of the loyal States. The great Army of the Potomac had moved, and battles fought upon the field were soon to throng the hospitals with their awful harvest of wounded and dying men. Increased zeal on the part of the Society, aided by the willing hands of our lady friends outside the organization, soon enabled it to send to the Branch Depot in New York six large boxes (Nos. 34, 35, 36, 37, 38 and 39) of new and valuable garments, chiefly cotton and flannel Shirts, Bed Gowns, Drawers, Double Gowns and Slippers, Sheets, Pillow Cases, Bed Ticks and Blankets. Two barrels of Books and Magazines were also sent, and acknowledgments received of their safe arrival. At a meeting held on the 9th of April, a communication was received from Quartermaster General Van Vechten, stating that the Secretary of War had decided to use the Barracks at Albany as a Military Post Hospital, and asking the assistance of the Society in preparing it for occupation, by a contribution of hospital stores and by assuming the making up of the necessary bedding. It was decided to assume the added responsibility, and the Committee chosen to confer with the Quartermaster General present the following report of the articles purchased and made up under the direction of the Society during the month of April:—

Contents of boxes consigned to Quartermaster General Van Vechten for Military Hospital at Albany Barracks:—

Box No. 1—400 Sheets, 400 Pillow Cases, 400 Pillow Ticks.

No. 2—432 Sheets.

No. 3—252 Sheets, 708 Pillow Cases.

No. 4—222 Sheets, 396 Pillow Cases.

No. 5—219 Pillow Cases, 100 Pillow Ticks.

Total—Sheets, 1306; Pillow Cases, 1327; Pillow Ticks, 896.

We have received, since last November, boxes from the following Societies, some of which have been repacked and some sent to Washington unopened, as we were directed by the donors:—

Guilderland Centre Relief Society, one box.

Greenbush Relief Society, one box.

Soldiers' Need Society, New Scotland, one box.

Newtonville Society, one box.

Guilderland (box for Miss Lawrence), one box.

Coeymans Ladies' Relief Association, one box.

Soldiers' Friend Society of Coeymans Landing, one box.

Ladies' Benevolent Society, Baptist Church, Schenectady, one box.

Ladies of East Schodack, one box.

Ladies of Westerlo, one box.

Ladies' Aid Society, Knox, one box.

Soldiers' Aid Society, Chatham Four Corners one box.

Stephentown, Rensselaer Co., one box.

Soldiers' Aid Society, Coeymans, one box.

Soldiers' Aid Society, Rensselaerville, one box.

Gloversville, (per Mrs. Corwin), one box.

Coeymans, (for 18th Regiment), one box.

Medway, Greene Co., N. Y., one box.

The Committee cannot close this Report without an expression of its obligation to the many friends who have so faithfully stood by the Association since its formation, aiding it as much by their wise counsels, as by their personal superintendence and attention to its many outside duties. This tribute is especially due to Hon. George H. Thacher, whose persistent and untiring devotion to the best interests of the Society, merits more than this slight acknowledgment. The uniform kindness and courtesy which has characterized all his relations with us, can never be forgotten by those who have been associated with him during the past winter at the City Hall.

To William McElroy, and to the firm of Van Sickler & Forby, the Committee would also speak one word of acknowledgment. The necessary manual labor connected with packing and marking large boxes has been

most kindly assumed by these gentlemen, and no pressure of private business has ever interfered to prevent their immediate personal attention to this duty, whenever their services were required by the packing Committee.

In December last, Hon. J. G. Saxe, of our city, delivered, for the benefit of the Society, his elegant essay on "Poetry and the Poets," not only delighting those of our citizens who heard it, but most substantially adding to our cash receipts. A public recognition of our gratitude is due to him; and yet we know that he finds his reward less in the thanks of those ladies whom he so courteously assisted, than in the consciousness that his thoughtful kindness has carried comfort and health to many a patriot soldier who, far from home and friends, was languishing and dying in the dreary wards of a military hospital.

To Weed, Parsons & Co., and to the proprietors of the Evening Journal and Atlas and Argus, are we especially indebted. They have not only cheerfully and gratuitously, printed all the necessary circulars, cards, papers, &c., used by the Society, but the former have presented it a large volume, prepared expressly as a book of Record and intended for preservation in the office of the County Clerk. This book contains a complete record of all the contributions received by the Relief Association, the Reports of the Treasurer and the several Committees, the account opened with the Sanitary Commission, the minutes of the Executive Committee, together with such other matter relating to the Society as may be deemed worthy of preservation. The Editors of our city newspapers have always cheerfully recognized our claims upon their columns and inserted our notices and advertisements with a readiness that changed the embarrassment of asking such favors into a pleasure. To the Ladies of the several Societies, who, in this and the adjoining towns have labored with us, and sent us such ample evidence of their efficiency and zeal, we are profoundly grateful. Without their aid we should have often found ourselves unable to meet the calls so urgently made upon us, and we thank them for demonstrating that, although removed from that active stimulus of personal contact and association with the war, which so often stirs our flagging sympathies in the cities, the fire of patriotic zeal burns as brightly and warmly as though their

hearts were daily touched by the sight (now, alas! become so common to us,) of sick and wounded and dying men.

This Report would be incomplete did the Committee fail to recognise the generous donation sent us last December by the religious community of Shakers at Niskayuna. Prevented by their religious faith from accepting that stirring call to arms which roused the whole Nation a little more than a year ago, their hearts opened at once to that second appeal, which asked for aid in behalf of those who, answering the one, had left it to a great Christian people to answer the other. Their quaint but decided protest against "the bloody

trade of war" was offset by such generous supplies of everything that could be used in a military hospital, that our suffering soldiers could well afford to forgive their *logic* while they demonstrated so well in their *practice* that "One touch of Nature makes the whole earth kin."

Mrs. E. D. MORGAN,	Mrs. ELI PERRY,
" WM. B. SPRAGUE,	" THOMAS HUN,
" E. P. ROGERS,	" JACOB LANSING,
" S. T. SEELYE,	" RANSOM,
" RAY PALMER,	" JAMES HALL,
" MARK TRAFTON,	" OTIS ALLEN,
" A. D. MAYO,	" GEO. B. STEELE,
" J. McNAUGHTON,	Miss C. PRUYN,
" CHAS. M. JENKINS,	Mrs. WM. BARNES,
" GEO. H. THACHER,	Executive Committee.

ARMY RELIEF ASSOCIATION

OF THE

CITY OF ALBANY.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

CITY HALL, November 1, 1862.

To the citizens of Albany:

One year having elapsed since the organization of the Army Relief Association of the city of Albany, its Executive Committee, in pursuance of established custom, desires to render an account of its stewardship.

An elaborate and careful report of the effective condition and practical working of this Association having been published last July, it is deemed unnecessary to repeat in detail the statements then made, and they will be reviewed as briefly as possible in connection with this report. We had hoped that with that publication our term of service might cease, and that no further need of voluntary organized charity for military hospitals might exist; but early in September an urgent appeal was again made to us; the warehouses of the Sanitary Commission were drained to answer a new demand, and the necessity for renewed action was pressed upon us with an awful distinctness when we saw that New York counted her wounded and dying sons by thousands on the bloody fields of South Mountain and Antietam. We again called upon our friends to assist us in the preparation of proper articles for hospital use, and through their zeal and efficiency we were enabled before the close of the month to send to the Commission twenty-four boxes of supplies. But our funds were nearly exhausted, and our Receiving room, after the last invoice of goods had left the City Hall, was entirely bare and empty. After much anxious deliberation it was decided that a call should be made upon the Clergymen of our city, asking their co-operation and assistance, and urging them to take up Contributions in their several churches in aid of the Commis-

sion. The following will show with what readiness the call was answered:

Ferry street Methodist Episcopal Church (Rev. Mr. Bowen),.....	\$234 00
Second Presbyterian Church (Rev. Dr. Sprague),.....	200 00
St. Joseph's Church (Right Rev. J. J. Conroy),	102 00
St. Peter's Church (Rev. Mr. Wilson),	95 59
First Reformed Protestant Dutch Church (Rev. —),.....	84 09
First Congregational Church (Rev. Dr. Palmer),.....	75 00
Fourth Presbyterian Church (Rev. Dr. Seeley),	61 69
Third Presbyterian Church (Rev. Dr. Halley),	40 36
First Baptist Church (Rev. Dr. Magoon),.....	60 40
First Unitarian Church (Rev. Mr. Mayo),	84 00
United Presbytertan Church (Rev. Mr. Morrow),.....	28 50
Church of the Holy Innocents (Rev. Mr. Johnson),.....	19 57
Evangelical Lutheran Church (Rev. Dr. Pohlman),	17 10
State street Baptist Church (Rev. Mr. Arthur),.....	12 02
Hudson street Methodist Church (Rev. Mark Trafton),	10 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,074 32
From private contributions since September 1st,	197 47
	<hr/>
Carried forward,.....	\$1,271 79

Brought forward,..... 1,271 79
Balance in the treasury, September 1st, 261 84

Total,.....\$1,533 63
We have expended since September
1st,..... 1,050 00

Leaving an unexpended balance in
the treasury of,..... \$483 63

Since our organization one year ago, we have packed and sent to the Sanitary Commission, 97 boxes of hospital supplies. These boxes were mainly filled with garments, the materials for which were purchased and made up under the direction of the society. Acknowledgments have been received of their safe arrival, in every instance. The following list (necessarily incomplete, for it comprises only the most important articles made, and omits much that is included in the summer report) will partially show the amount of work cut out and prepared for hospital use, during the year:

Sheets,..... 1,847	Bed Gowns,.... 100
Pillow Cases,.... 1,584	Wrappers,..... 118
Bed Ticks,..... 149	Flannel Shirts,.. 320
Pillow Ticks,.... 935	Socks, pairs,.... 1,684
Comfortables,.... 282	Mittens, pairs, .. 523
Shirts,..... 983	Towels,..... 680
Drawers, pairs,.. 355	Handkerchiefs,.. 600

Of these articles, the young ladies of Miss Skerritt's school made 1,000 pillow cases, and the young ladies of the Female Academy, 440 sheets.

We have received boxes from the following towns, since September 1st:

Gallupville—1 box.
Brockett's Bridge, Herkimer county—1 box.
Rensselaerville—1 box.
Greenbush Aid Society—3 barrels and 5 boxes.
Schenevus—1 box.
Middleburgh, Schoharie county—1 box.
Worcester, Otsego county—1 box.
Nassau, Rensselaer county—1 box.
Unknown—3 boxes.

Early in September we were notified by the assistant Secretary of the Commission that our boxes must hereafter be sent to the central depot at New York. As some prejudice seemed to exist in the public mind regarding this medium of transit, a member of the Executive committee visited this depot (No. 11 Cooper Union), to ascertain if there were any grounds for the absurd rumors in circulation. Every facility was afforded her for the strictest scrutiny, and the result of the investigation was eminently satisfactory. Those who have assumed the labor and responsibility consequent upon a proper discharge of the duties connected with this depot are ladies whose very names are a sufficient guaranty of fidelity. Through all the long hot months of the past summer, these devoted women have been at their post, unpacking, assorting and repacking heavy boxes and barrels, performing manual labor that only the high inspiration of patriotism could render endurable; some of them daily visiting the hospitals

in the city, others going down on the transports sent by the Sanitary Commission to Fortress Monroe during the Peninsular campaign, and returning with their living freight of sick and wounded men, they cheered and nursed and comforted as only women can, the long hours of agony that marked those tedious voyages. Could but the sad record of only *one* voyage be published, the most industrious and noisy calumniator of this noble charity would be shamed into silence. Many complaints having been made that the Commission have caused the goods sent them to be repacked in New York and detained there for a time, a word of explanation is due to the public regarding this arrangement. It is true that the goods consigned to the Central Relief Society are repacked and assorted in New York city, and remain there subject to orders from Washington. The reasons are obvious. Boxes sent by individuals, and by the several aid societies throughout the state, contain a great variety of articles, more or less needed, and these articles must all be assorted and repacked before they are ready to answer the requisitions of the surgeons in the general and regimental hospitals. This labor, originally undertaken at Washington, has grown with the growth of the Commission until it is now formidable in its tax upon voluntary service. If not performed in Washington, it must be done elsewhere, and as a portion of it is willingly and gratuitously assumed in New York, by ladies whose efficiency has been tested by nearly two years' service, it has been deemed more safe to entrust it to their voluntary supervision than to the care of paid employes at Washington, whose cupidity might be excited by the continual passage of marketable articles through their hands.

These boxes when repacked and ready for transportation to Washington, are no longer heterogeneous in their character; shirts are packed in separate boxes and regularly invoiced, and drawers, sheets, pillow cases, &c., &c., follow the same order. When a telegraph from Washington calls for two or three thousand shirts or drawers, these boxes are at once sent on, and are ready for delivery at any of the hospitals, immediately upon their arrival at Washington.

A careful, personal inspection of the system, both in New York and Washington, comprising an examination of the store houses at both places, has satisfied the Albany Association that the best (as it is certainly the most accessible) depot for its consignments, is at the Cooper Union, and we have therefore (with a few exceptions), sent the boxes from the City Hall directly to that point. Up to the date of our previous report (July 1st), the Quartermaster-General had transmitted our supplies to Washington without expense to the Association. The last call for troops having been made by the General Government, he was not authorized to assume again this responsibility, and the added item of "freight" threatened our treasury, already sadly depleted by the advanced price which we were compelled

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to pay for all cotton and woolen goods. Our thanks are publicly due to the American Express and River Transportation Companies, who at once stated their willingness to aid us, and have ever since promptly and gratuitously forwarded all our boxes to New York, and delivered them at the Cooper Institute.

Probably no purely benevolent society has ever fully satisfied its friends, or by a wise administration of its affairs, silenced all its enemies. Benevolence is a sentiment, and that sentiment finds its expression in a thousand forms, each form being tinged and colored by the mind through which it acts. It is the glory of any associated philanthropic body to so harmonize by its action, these ever varying shades of sentiment, that the mass of people may find within its limits, the best expression of their own personal charities. The Sanitary Commission has undoubtedly been more successful in this respect, than even its friends anticipated. When it is understood, that nearly a thousand General and Regimental hospitals throughout the United States are supplied from this Central source, and that this source is replenished solely by voluntary charities, the wonder is, that it has accomplished so much, and incurred so little reproach. An extract from a letter written by its President, says:

"The cause grows more needy every day. The cries for aid are more urgent and heart-rending. All we can do leaves enormous suffering behind, and many are so blind as to hold us responsible for the misery we have not the means to alleviate. We are all the while *judged by what we do not do*; not as we should be, by *what we do*. No matter if we relieve 10,000—if there remain 5,000 unrelieved, it is our fault! as if any volunteering, self-sustaining agency, could do all his."

Rev. Dr. Hosmer of Buffalo, who was appointed by the General Aid Society of that city to visit the government hospitals and the agencies of the Sanitary Commission, in an able and comprehensive report just published, takes occasion to allude to another charge which has been made against the Commission, that a large per centage of the goods consigned to them, are either lost on the way or misappropriated through dishonest persons connected with the hospitals. He says:

"It will be seen at once that so large a business, made up of so many items, and coming together from so many places, must be managed methodically and with thoroughness, or great waste and loss must be; and there are stories about goods sold at auction on the way, and piles of goods at Washington wasting and exposed to depredation. *There is an excellent method and a thorough business energy in carrying it out. There is exact care, supervision and book-keeping.* I think there is no large business firm in Buffalo that conducts its affairs with a more careful method than does this Sanitary Commission. I looked through their books, and went to see the whole operation of their method. I saw their depots, and their agents, at Washington; and by the way, I felt ashamed, when I saw these agents, so capable, so faithful, many

of them superior men, nobly giving their services for small remuneration, or even gratuitously; to think of suspicions entertained, and rumors in circulation; I saw the goods in every step of their transit, and I say it is impossible that there should be much loss or waste of goods, while passing from the homes of the givers to the hospitals and battle fields where the sick and wounded are.

"Now, as to the delivery of these goods, it may be asked, What more do we know about them? The Commission have given them out in their best discretion, but are they not wasted in the hospitals, camps, or on the battle fields? Possibly they are sometimes; possibly some wretch may have got a place in a hospital, and sold a shirt to a poor sick wounded soldier, or eaten up a pot of jelly that charity has sent to suffering patients. There may be some such cases, but who can believe they are frequent? The Commission do all they can to prevent such mean stealing.

"The work of the Commission is not confined to this gathering and delivery of goods. Perhaps even a greater service they are doing for the sick and wounded by their medical and sanitary inspection of camps and hospitals. From the beginning they have had sixteen medical inspectors, men of professional ability, who have spent all their time in passing from camp to camp, and hospital to hospital. They are provided with a printed list of one hundred and eighty questions, all about the hospital or camp, position, diet, supplies, surgeons, nurses, cleanliness, economy of means, &c., and these lists, filled out with answers to the questions, are sent to the main office, and if they report gross abuse, or want of fidelity, the case is at once laid before the Surgeon General.

"Does this do any good? A few days ago one of these medical inspectors reported at the office that in a certain hospital he saw the surgeon lying drunk on a settee, and patients suffering for proper care. The report went at once to the Surgeon General; that very night the delinquent was summoned to appear before his superior the next morning, and was found guilty and dismissed from service! and most probably wherever he be, is reporting mischievous stories about the Sanitary Commission, as a "maelstrom of munificence" and an "impertinent meddler."

The action of the Albany Association, with reference to other charitable organizations outside the Sanitary Commission, having been somewhat commented upon, it seems to be proper for us, in defining our position, to give our reasons for the course we have pursued. To those who would complain of our action as being too rigid for a benevolent society, having for its object only the comfort and welfare of the soldier in hospital, it is but necessary to state that our Association was formed as an auxiliary branch of the Sanitary Commission, and it is in direct and constant communication with it. As it is publicly pledged to assist and sustain that Commission, it can neither change its action nor divert its supplies without an entire re-organization as a society.

Occupying no antagonistic position toward either State or private Relief societies, it still adheres firmly to the conviction that private charities must, from their very nature, be narrow, and often injudicious and unwise, while State Relief societies, however well-meaning and benevolent they may be, are still vicious in their tendencies, because they recognize in their *charities* what the Southern States have recognized in their *politics*, the heresy of "State rights."

In a letter from the Secretary of the Commission to us, on this subject, he truly says (and as a society we cordially and fully indorse his sentiments): "It is very true, as we know from high authority, that he who does not care for his own household is worse than an infidel, but in such a crisis as has overtaken the national life, the bonds of the household enlarge until they touch the circumference of the loyal territory at every point, and every loyal man and woman should look upon *every* soldier in the Union army as a brother, battling for his or her own life-blood, and to be cherished accordingly, whether that brother comes from the shores of the eastern Atlantic, or western Pacific, or central lake. If I am asked to give a reason why the gifts of the nation should be entrusted to this Commission, rather than to State or City societies, I say that a sufficient reason to give any loyal man or woman is, that this organization only, is regardless of local lines and sectional sympathies; that it asks not and cares not whether the Union soldier to whom it gives the stockings, knit by the trembling fingers of the grandmother, or the jelly, prepared by the young girl—that it knows not whether he comes from Maine or Minnesota; it knows only that he is an American soldier, who has poured out his blood for the Union. Neither does it stop to consider whether Iowa or New York have contributed most to its store-houses or treasury, believing that each has given of its best, whether out of its poverty or its riches; and that the pallid young sufferer whose life is bleeding away on this mattress, is as worthy of its comforts and assiduities, as his dying neighbor on the next mattress, though the widowed mother of the first, gave but her mite out of her poverty, while the father of the other gave his gold."

The committee cannot close this report, without again acknowledging its indebtedness to the

"faithful few" who have so cheerfully aided it, in cutting out and making up the garments that have been sent to the Commission during the past year. When work accumulated, an appeal to them for service was never made in vain, and in hours of discouragement, when the fact of an empty treasury was coupled with a consciousness that in Albany the field of voluntary charity was pretty thoroughly gleaned, their energy and hopefulness gave to the cause a fresh impetus and charm. Our thanks are also due to the children of some of our public schools (particularly schools No 6, 10 and 11), to those of the Catholic Parish schools and Sisters of Charity, and the Industrial school. Those of us who have been at the City Hall and attended to the giving out of work, can scarcely forget the little eager faces that have thronged about our Receiving room, importunate in their demands, jealous lest others more favored, should "do more for the soldiers" than they. To the ladies of the Receiving Committee, we are especially indebted. Their prompt and accurate performance of every duty imposed upon them, has materially lightened the labors of the Executive Committee, and the intercourse, necessarily close and intimate between the two bodies, has been uniformly marked by the greatest kindness and consideration. No duty, however slight, has been neglected by them, no opportunity for service allowed to pass unimproved. In closing this Report of our labors for the past year, we should be doing the cause injustice, did we fail to pay this passing tribute to their efficiency and worth.

Mrs. E. D. MORGAN,
 " WM. B. SPRAGUE,
 " S. T. SEELY,
 " RAY PALMER,
 " A. D. MAYO,
 " J. McNAUGHTON,
 " CHAS. M. JENKINS,
 " JOHN TAYLOR,
 " JACOB LANSING,
 " JAMES HALL,
 " GEORGE H. THACHER,
 " ELI PERRY,
 " A. RANSOM,
 " OTIS ALLEN,
 " GEORGE B. STEELE,
 Miss CATHARINE PRUYN,
 Mrs. WILLIAM BARNES,

Executive Committee.

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